



CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
**OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT**

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NESTOR N. NKWO  
Budget Director

JOSEPH P. GANIM  
Mayor

September 25, 2017

Ms. Aresta Johnson, Superintendent  
Ms. Marlene Siegel, Chief Financial Officer  
City of Bridgeport Board of Education  
45 Lyon Terrace  
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

**RE: FY 2017-2018 Operating Budget**

Dear Superintendent Johnson and CFO Siegel,

As you are aware, the State of Connecticut has yet to adopt its FY 2017-2018 annual operating budget. Accordingly, the State has not been funding the anticipated revenue allocations to cities and towns.

In its own FY 2017-2018 annual operating budget, the City of Bridgeport appropriated approximately \$138,431,495 for Board of Education expenses to be funded by the State – none of which has been received to date.

In addition, the City appropriated approximately \$63,500,000 of City general funds to the Board for FY 2017-2018. To date, the Board has expended approximately \$48,700,000 from the City's allocation.

As a result, only approximately \$14,800,000 remain available from City funds for Board of Education operations. At the current rate, it would appear that all City funds allocated to the Board for FY 2017-2018 will be depleted on or about September 31, 2017. In the event that the State does not remit State funds for Board expenses, the City will not have funds to pay any additional Board expenditures.

The Board is advised to contact its State legislators and the Governor's Office regarding this critical financial situation, and to make appropriate contingency plans. The City's Labor Relations Office is available for your consultation and assistance.

Sincerely,

Nestor N. Nkwo, OPM Director

Cc: Joseph P. Ganim, Mayor  
Daniel Shamas, Chief of Staff  
Kimberly Staley, CAO  
Kenneth Flatto, Finance Director  
R. Christopher Meyer, City Attorney  
Mark T. Anastasi, Associate City Attorney  
Rowena White, Director of Communications